

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 14706 171024Z

43

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 A-01

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8648

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, RP

SUBJECT: KOREAN DEMONSTRATION

REF: MANILA 14604

1. KOREAN AMBASSADOR TOLD AMBASSADOR OCTOBER 17 THAT BISHOP JULIO LABAYEN, NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF THE SOCIAL ACTION OFFICE OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH HAD BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEMONSTRATION. LABAYEN, AN ACTIVIST AND OCCASIONALLY UNGUIDED MISSILE, HAD REQUESTED AN APPOINTMENT WITH THE KOREAN AMBASSADOR TO TALK ABOUT THE DETAINMENT OF BISHOP TJI AND POET KIM CHI HA. KOREAN AMBASSADOR HAD AGREED BUT WHEN HE GOT WORD LABAYEN ALSO PLANNING TO HAVE TONDO WORKERS INCLUDING SOME CHURCH PEOPLE STAGE ACCOMPANYING DEMONSTRATION, HE CANCELLED APPOINTMENT AND, APPARENTLY, INFORMED METROCOM. DEMONSTRATION THEREFORE COMPLETELY BLANKETED ALTHOUGH FEW DEMONSTRATORS ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN BRIEF PRAY-IN IN BUILDING LOBBY.

2. SOME DEMONSTRATORS, NUMBERING OVER 100, WERE TAKEN TO FORT BONIFACIO AND THEN ON TO CAMP CRAME, AND HELD UNTIL END OF DAY. MOST OF THESE DEMONSTRATORS WERE OLDER, TONDO TYPES. WE HAVE NOT VERIFIED ALLEGATION OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 MANILA 14706 171024Z

DETENTION OF ST. THERESA STUDENTS REFTEL. ARCHBISHOP

SIN WENT TO CAMP CRAME TO INQUIRE ABOUT WELFARE OF GROUP BUT LEARNED THEY ALREADY RELEASED. METROCOM TOLD HIM THERE HAD BEEN NO INTENTION OF "DETAINING" DEMONSTRATORS BUT SIMPLY OF HOLDING THEM UNTIL AFTER WORKING HOURS AT THE KOREAN EMBASSY.

3. BISHOP LABAYEN HAS TAKEN ACTIVE INTEREST IN KOREAN PROBLEM IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN, OFFICE FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT OF FEDERATION OF ASIAN BISHOPS' CONFERENCE AND ARRANGED APPOINTMENT WITH KOREAN AMBASSADOR IN THAT CAPACITY. SO FAR, WE HAVE NOT FOUND ANY LINK WITH SENATOR SALONGA'S GROUP BUT WE ASSUME THAT DEMONSTRATION WILL NEVERTHELESS RAPIDLY BECOME PART OF GENERAL LORE OF OPPOSITION TO MARTIAL LAW PRACTICES IN PHILIPPINES.
SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

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